

Amendment and Response

Serial No.: 10/081,176

Confirmation No.: 2734

Filed: February 22, 2002

For: SEPARATION APPARATUS AND METHODS

Page 2 of 3

Remarks

The Office Action mailed January 5, 2005 has been received and reviewed. No claims have been amended, cancelled or added. Therefore, claims 1-18 and 45-68 are pending in the present application. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested in view of the remarks provided herein.

The 35 U.S.C. §102(f) Rejection

The Examiner rejected claims 1-18 and 45-68 under 35 U.S.C. §102(f) citing various documents and alleging that "applicant Iwasaki may not be the sole inventor" as such documents are "coauthored by the applicant and one of either Salih Ersayin or Chuying Wu."

As suggested by the Examiner, Applicant submits a Declaration under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 declaring that Iwao Iwasaki is the sole inventor of the subject matter claimed in the above-identified U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/081,176. As set forth therein, the coauthors of the documents cited by the Examiner did not contribute to the claimed invention. Rather, such persons assisted only in testing the claimed invention.

In view of the above and the attached Declaration, Iwasaki is the sole inventor of the claimed subject matter that is commonly disclosed in the documents cited by the Examiner. As such, inventorship is accurate and the claimed subject matter is not derived from another as alleged by the Examiner.

It is respectfully requested that the rejection be withdrawn and the pending claims be allowed to issue.

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Page 3 of 3

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Summary

It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's Representatives at the below-listed telephone number if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Respectfully submitted for

Iwao IWASAKI

By

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April 5, 2005

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MJG/skd

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR §1.8:

The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 5th day of April, 2005.

By: 

Name: Mark J. Gebhardt
